

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

OCTOBER 23, 2007

Over this past weekend Southern California was devastated by a series of wildfires. In the Santa Clarita Valley alone, there were three fires that originated in Agua Dulce, Castaic and Val Verde, and in Stevenson Ranch. These fires are in addition to the fire in Malibu, not to mention those fires outside of Los Angeles County.

As we have seen with other disasters, public-private partnerships are critical in assisting individuals to recover - mortgage payments, permits to re-build and paying property taxes. The County needs to expedite the permitting process and reduce or re-structure property tax payments. The County can also ask banks and finance companies to re-schedule mortgage payments to provide some relief for residents who have lost their homes or suffered damage.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to:

- Work with the Departments of Regional Planning and Public Works to expedite issuance of permits and establish one-stop permitting centers in those areas impacted by the recent fires;
- Request that the County Assessor develop concessions for property-owners whose homes were damaged or destroyed in the fires, including extending deadlines for upcoming property tax payments, adjusting property taxes to reflect the recent loss of structures, or deferring payments to future tax years; and
- Prepare a 5-signature letter to major lending institutions, asking that mortgage payments on homes damaged or destroyed by the recent fires in Los Angeles County be temporarily delayed and that accrued payments be added to the end of the mortgage term.

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MDA:pno
wildfires